

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A network bus coupler mountable on a circuit card, the network bus coupler comprising:

a housing;

electrical isolation circuitry disposed within the housing; and,

connectors disposed exterior of the housing and extending outwardly from the housing, the connectors being electrically coupled to the electrical isolation circuitry, ~~the connectors~~ and configured to ~~be coupled to~~ engage at least some sockets of the circuit card,

wherein the network bus coupler is configured to couple a bus to a device connected to the circuit card, the bus and the circuit card disposed exterior of the housing, and

wherein a first plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the bus via the circuit card and a second plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the device via the circuit card.

2. (Original) The network bus coupler as claimed in claim 1, wherein said connectors comprise a plurality of pins.

3. (Original) The network bus coupler as claimed in claim 2, wherein said pins are adapted for insertion into sockets.

4. (Previously Presented) The network bus coupler as claimed in claim 3, wherein said sockets are contained in the circuit card of a junction box.

5. (Original) The network bus coupler as claimed in claim 1, wherein said isolation circuitry includes an isolation transformer.

6. (Original) The network bus coupler as claimed in claim 1, including:
a bus terminator disposed in said housing and electrically coupled to a connector disposed exterior of said housing.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for coupling a device to a bus, said system comprising:

a junction box electrically coupled to said device and to said bus;

a circuit card disposed in said junction box, said circuit card including a plurality of sockets; and,

a modular network bus coupler mountable to said circuit card and configured to couple the bus to the device connected to the circuit card, said bus coupler comprising:

a housing;

electrical isolation circuitry disposed within the housing; and,

a plurality of pins disposed exterior of the housing and extending outwardly from the housing, the plurality of pins being engageable with at least some of said sockets of said circuit card, at least some of said pins being electrically coupled to said electrical isolation circuitry,

wherein the bus and the circuit card are disposed exterior of the housing, and

wherein a first plurality of said pins extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the bus via the circuit card and a second plurality of said pins extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the device via the circuit card.

8. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said isolation circuitry includes an isolation transformer.

9. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 7, including:
a bus terminator disposed in said housing and electrically coupled to a pair of said pins.

10. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said device is an avionics component and said bus is an aircraft data bus.

11. (Currently Amended) A network bus coupler mountable on a circuit card, the network bus coupler comprising:

a housing configured to house essentially an electrical isolation circuitry; and,

connectors disposed exterior of the housing and extending outwardly from the housing, the connectors being electrically coupled to the electrical isolation circuitry, the connectors and configured to be coupled to engage at least some sockets of the circuit card,
wherein the network bus coupler is configured to couple a bus to a device connected to the circuit card, the bus and the circuit card disposed exterior of the housing, and
wherein a first plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the bus via the circuit card and a second plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the device via the circuit card.

12. (Currently Amended) A network bus coupler mountable on a circuit card, the network bus coupler consisting essentially of:

a housing configured to house an electrical isolation circuitry; and,
connectors disposed exterior of the housing and extending outwardly from the housing, the connectors being electrically coupled to the electrical isolation circuitry, the connectors and configured to be coupled to engage at least some sockets of the circuit card,
wherein the network bus coupler is configured to couple a bus to a device connected to the circuit card, the bus and the circuit card disposed exterior of the housing, and
wherein a first plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the bus via the circuit card and a second plurality of said connectors extending outwardly from the housing is configured to be coupled to the device via the circuit card.